MARVEL

MARVEL KNIGHTS

#5

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DIXON
BARRETO
JANSON

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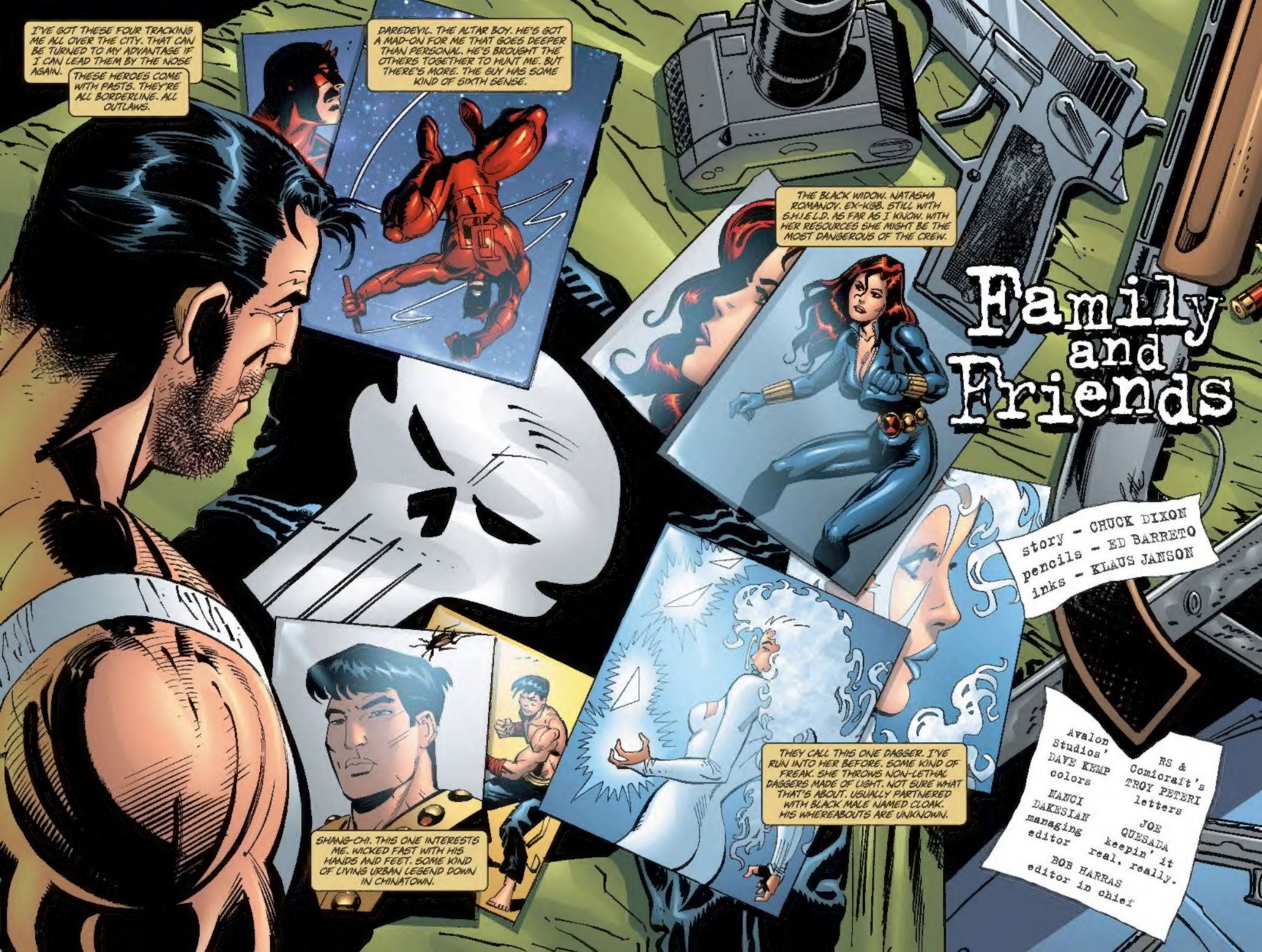
I'VE GOT THESE FOUR TRACKING ME ALL OVER THE CITY. THAT CAN BE TURNED TO MY ADVANTAGE IF I CAN LEAD THEM BY THE NOSE AGAIN.
THESE HEROES COME WITH PASTS. THEY'RE ALL BORDERLINE. ALL OUTLAWS.
DAREDEVIL. THE ALTAR BOY. HE'S GOT A MAD-ON FOR ME THAT GOES DEEPER THAN PERSONAL. HE'S BROUGHT THE OTHERS TOGETHER TO HUNT ME. BUT THERE'S MORE. THE GUY HAS SOME KIND OF SIXTH SENSE.
THE BLACK WIDOW. NATASHA ROMANOV. EX-KGB. STILL WITH S.H.I.E.L.D. AS FAR AS I KNOW. WITH HER RESOURCES SHE MIGHT BE THE MOST DANGEROUS OF THE CREW.
Family and Friends
story - CHUCK DIXON
pencils - ED BARRETO
inks - KLAUS JANSON
SHANG-CHI. THIS ONE INTERESTS ME. WICKED FAST WITH HIS HANDS AND FEET. SOME KIND OF LIVING URBAN LEGEND DOWN IN CHINATOWN.
THEY CALL THIS ONE DAGGER. I'VE RUN INTO HER BEFORE. SOME KIND OF FREAK. SHE THROWS NON-LETHAL DAGGERS MADE OF LIGHT. NOT SURE WHAT THAT'S ABOUT. USUALLY PARTNERED WITH BLACK MALE NAMED CLOAK. HIS WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN.
Avalon Studios' DAVE KEMP colors
RS & Comicraft's TROY PETERI letters
NANCI DAKESIAN managing editor
JOE QUESADA keepin' it real. really.
BOB HARRAS editor in chief

I DON'T KNOW HIS STORY. FROM CONVERSATIONS I'VE TAPED WITH THIS CROWD THERE'S ALWAYS HINTS ABOUT HIS PAST.

TIES TO SOME KIND OF ASIAN ORGANIZED CRIME FIGURE. MAJOR TRIAD ACTION IS MY GUESS.

I'M SURE IT'S A FAMILY THING.

I'LL DIG AROUND IN THIS SHANG-CHI HISTORY FOR FILTH.

THEN KILL IT.

GISH

SHANG-CHI, YOU DISHONOR ME.

I WAS BORN TO DISHONOR.

ONCE IT AMUSED ME TO LET YOU LIVE.

NO MORE.

I HAD HOPES YOU WOULD SEE THE TRUTH OF THE WORLD.

BUT FOR ALL YOU HAVE SEEN..

FOR ALL YOUR SKILLS...

ALL YOUR STRENGTH...

YOU ARE STILL A FOOL.

I WILL NOT SUFFER A FOOL.

UH!

UNNH!

NOT FROM MY OWN HOUSE.

NOT ONE WHO BEARS MY LEGACY.

YOU WILL DIE NOW.

YOUR NAME AND MEMORY EXPUNGED FROM ALL EXISTENCE.

AS THOUGH YOU NEVER EXISTED.

FATHER.

YOU ARE NO SON TO ME.

ALL THE WORLD AND MORE COULD HAVE BEEN YOURS.

HAD YOU BUT SEEN THE TRUTH OF THINGS.

GUH?

I HEARD YOU MOVING ABOUT.

AUNT MUI.

I BROUGHT YOU TEA AND SOMETHING TO EAT.

THAT WAS NOT NECESSARY, AUNT.

YOU ARE TOO KIND.

MY HUSBAND AND I HAVE WELCOMED YOU INTO OUR HOME AND OUR HEARTS.

IT IS GOOD TO HAVE A YOUNG ONE HERE.

ESPECIALLY AS OUR LOVELY LIN IS NOW GONE.

AND YOU HAVE NO HOME OF YOUR OWN? NO FAMILY?

I PREFER NOT TO TALK ABOUT MY FAMILY.

THAT IS TO BE RESPECTED.

PLEASE ACCEPT OUR GIFT OF FOOD AND OUR THANKS FOR YOUR EFFORTS TO FIND OUR DAUGHTER.

GOOD DAY TO YOU, SHANG-CHI.

AND YOU, AUNT.

SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

I'M NOT SURE.

WHAT'S NOT TO LIKE, 'DEVIL?

YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT A CRIME FIGHTING ORGANIZATION. I'M SERIOUS ABOUT FINANCING IT.

A HEADQUARTERS. VEHICLES. SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT.

AND WHO SIGNS THE CHECKS?

MOON KNIGHT OR MARC SPECTOR?

HUH?

YOUR IDENTITY HAS TO BE THE WORST KEPT SECRET IN OUR COMMUNITY.

OKAY, WISE GUY. BUT THE OFFER STILL STANDS.

THINK OF WHAT YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS COULD ACCOMPLISH.

I'LL TAKE IT UP WITH THEM.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE LEADER, DAREDEVIL.

WE'RE NOT THAT ORGANIZED.

WE DON'T EVEN HAVE A NAME FOR OURSELVES.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, FURY?

I JUST WANTED TO ASK YOU ABOUT LOYALTIES, NATASHA.

YOU'VE BEEN ON AN UNAUTHORIZED MISSION. AND MIXING WITH SOME BAD COMPANY.

I'M NOT ON ACTIVE DUTY, NICK.

BUT YOU'RE STILL ON THE S.H.I.E.L.D. PAYROLL, HONEY.

THAT GIVES ME THE RIGHT TO BE NOSY. YOU USED TO HONCHO THE AVENGERS, FOR CRIPE'S SAKE.

NOW THIS CROWD?

YOUR BOYFRIEND IN THE RED PEE-JAYS ISN'T SO BAD. BUT FRANK CASTLE'S ANOTHER STORY. THE GUY'S DANGEROUS.

WE'RE NOT ALLIED WITH THE PUNISHER. WE'RE HUNTING HIM.

ONE'S AS BAD AS THE OTHER.

I CAN HANDLE IT.

AND WHEN I RETURN TO ACTIVE DUTY WITH S.H.I.E.L.D. YOU WILL HAVE MY UNDIVIDED ATTENTION, COLONEL.

AND DON'T LET THE DOOR HIT YOU IN THE BACK ON THE WAY OUT.

THAT'S MY WIDOW. NEVER GIVE AN INCH.

WELL, G'NIGHT, LADIES.

YOU'RE A S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENT?

THAT'S HOW I PAY THE RENT.

THEY'RE LIKE SPIES AND STUFF?

YES, DAGGER.

MAYBE THEY COULD HELP ME FIND CLOAK THEN.

DAILY BUGLE

YOU TOOK TWO PAPERS.

HUH?

YOU PAID FOR ONE PAPER BUT YOU TOOK TWO.

SO WHAT?

UNNH!

YOU KNOW BETTER THAN TO LIE TO ME, MICKEY.

YOU'RE NUTS. YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME.

THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG.

I ASKED YOU A QUESTION AND YOU TELL ME YOU'RE NOT CONNECTED ANYMORE.

BUH -- BUT YOU KILL CONNECTED GUYS.

NOT ONES I HAVE A USE FOR. GIVE ME SOMETHING BIG.

OKAY. SOMETHING BIG. OKAY.

YOU HATE DRUG GUYS, RIGHT? THERE'S A NEW PLAYER.

OVER AT THE PROJECTS NEAR THE MANHATTAN BRIDGE.

THEY CALL HIM DADDY WRONGLEGS. A REAL FREAK.

DESIGNER DRUGS. REAL FREAKY STUFF.

THAT BIG ENOUGH?

GOOD BOY, MICKEY.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, OKAY?

HEY, HOW ABOUT SOMETHING FOR THE EFFORT?

I KNOW THIS PLACE.

BUILDING C WAS TAKEN OVER BY A HAITIAN MOB A YEAR AGO.

THEY TURNED THE PLACE INTO A FORTRESS.

IF MICKEY FONDOZZI IS RIGHT, THIS WRONGLEGS TOOK IT AWAY FROM THEM.

I COULD USE THE ALTAR BOY AND HIS CREW ON THIS ONE.

BUT THE PLACE IS A GRAVEYARD.

NOT THE JUNKIE SUPERMARKET MICKEY SAYS IT IS.

HE KNOWS BETTER THAN TO SHINE ME ON.

I DO A RECON.

ZERO SECURITY.

NO GUARDS. NO LOOKOUTS. NOT EVEN A SCREAMING BOOM BOX ANYWHERE.

IS THIS DADDY WRONGLEGS THAT CONFIDENT?

OR IS IT SOMETHING ELSE?

I HATE MYSTERIES.

JUNKIES ON THE NOD OR CRACKHEADS SLEEPING IT OFF.

DOZENS OF THEM.

IT'S HARD TO TELL THEY'RE ALIVE. BREATHING SHALLOW.

THEY DON'T EVEN MOVE WHEN I TOUCH THEM.

SOME KIND OF LESIONS OR GROWTHS ON THEM. THEIR BODY TEMPERATURES ARE LOW.

IS THIS A SIDE EFFECT OF SOME NEW DESIGNER DRUG?

THE LAB AND MONEY ROOMS WERE ON THE TENTH FLOOR.

I'M BETTING THEY STILL ARE.

HUNDREDS MORE JUNKIES.

THEY'RE ASLEEP EVERYWHERE NOT MOVING. BARELY BREATHING.

THE HAITIANS' FORTED-UP COMPOUND.

SOMEBODY TOOK THEM OUT HARD.

MASSIVE FIREFIGHT TOOK PLACE HERE.

LOTS OF CASUALTIES IF THE BLOOD IS ANY PROOF.

STILL NOT A SOUND.

THE HAIRS ON THE BACK OF MY NECK SAY TRAP.

BUT THEY DIDN'T HAVE TO LET ME GET THIS FAR.

A HISSING SOUND HERE.

REGULAR AND LOW WITH A HUM TO IT.

I MOVE TOWARD THE LAB.

THE SMELL HERE IS OVERPOWERING. SWEET AND MUSKY.

THE HISS AND HUM ARE LOUDER HERE.

ARE YOU THE GUY THEY CALL DADDY WRONGLEGS?

ANSWER ME.

THE HUM AND HISS ARE COMING FROM HIM.

I LINE UP ON HIS CHEST. ONE TWITCH AND IT'S A CENTER SHOT.

HE TWITCHES ALL RIGHT.

HSSSSSST

IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES.

NOW I KNOW HOW HE GOT HIS NAME.

HSSSSSS

BRRRRRT

Your hospitality and generosity serve only to deepen my shame. I failed to save and protect your daughter.

And so I must leave you as my pain at my failure grows too great to bear.

But know that I carry you in my heart as though you were my own blood.

好

Even more precious than my own blood.

HAVE YOU NEVER SEEN SUCH BRUTALITY?

HAVE YOU NEVER SEEN SUCH CRUELTY?

IF THAT IS SO...

...THEN YOU DO NOT REMEMBER ZARAN THE WEAPONS MASTER.

YOUR FATHER SENDS HIS REGARDS.

TO BE CONTINUED!

Shadowcat